

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMISSION**

### **February 23, 2004 Minutes**

#### **Present**

Attendance from Commission:

Rep. Vicky Riback Wilson, Chair; Colleen White, DOLIR, Sen. Bill Foster; Bill Heberle, Children's Trust Fund; Kent King, DESE; Kelvin Simmons, DED; Rep. Danie Moore; Tina Shannon, Governor's Office; Mark Steward, DYS; Dorn Schuffman, DMH; Rep. Yvonne Wilson; Chris Turney (for Judge Moorhouse); Charles Jackson, DPS; Linda Roebuck, DMH; Gary Kempker, DOC; Tricia Schlecte, DHSS; Brenda Horstman, DED.

Members of the public and CSC subcommittees:

Deborah Scott, Co-chair, CSC Early Childhood Subcommittee; Anne Dannerbeck, CSC Liaison; Cande Iveson, Citizen's for Missouri's Children; Bill Boies, Division of Budget and Planning; Stephen Hick, Social Work Intern, DMH; John Howser, Citizens of United Rehabilitation of Errants; Dana Hayse, MO CURE; Barbara Baker, Center for Women in Transition; Marilyn Nola, MCCA; Lucia Erikson-Kincheloe, Prevent Child Abuse Missouri; Jennie Bedsworth, CSC Liaison; Marilyn Nolan, Bill Dent, FACT.

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#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Members of the Commission and those attending from the public and CSC subcommittees introduced themselves.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

The following amendments were made to the January 2004 minutes:

- Under "Other Announcements," the bullet that reads "It was noted that dentists were not currently available through MC+ in the central Missouri area; this is perhaps an area CSC should look into," was changed to: "There is limited availability of dentists through MC+ in the central Missouri area; one available provider is the Family Health Center in Columbia."
- Bill Heberle, CTF, Charlie O'Reilly, FACT, and Michael Middleton FACT were noted as present.
- The DHSS update was omitted from the minutes; the following update was inserted: "Proposed legislation effecting children and families include philosophical exemption to childhood immunizations and revisions to lead abatement statutes that

would allow fines to be levied for violating work practice standards.”

The minutes were approved as amended.

### **III. Treasurer’s Report**

#### **a. Current monthly report**

Kent King, CSC treasurer, presented the month’s report. He noted the following:

- Little activity for the month had occurred.
- CSC is still waiting on paperwork and action from MU regarding payment for the commission staff and expenses.
- The fund balance as of 1/31/04 was \$10,060.50.

The treasurer’s report was approved.

#### **b. Long-term funding of CSC – Discussion and Action**

Kent King also discussed the long-term financial situation for CSC.

- For many years, CSC spent very little money. All costs were covered by donations.
- CSC is spending money on staff, so very little interest, based on the lower balance, is accruing.
- If CSC wants to continue funding staff, a new source of revenue must be found.
- A history sheet on CSC funding was presented.

The Chair opened discussion on alternative options regarding future funding for CSC. She noted that she had previously understood that CSC was getting \$10,000 in funding annually, but recently learned that the \$10,000 was appropriation authority only, without a renewable funding source.

Discussion ensued on the source of the original donations and on future sources, including general revenue and the Children’s Trust Fund.

The Chair asked CSC members to consider what they wanted the commission to do in the future, and what funding might be necessary. She noted that without the help of current staff members, the annual report, required in statute, would not have been produced.

Travel costs were discussed and determined to not be a major expense for CSC.

Other CSC expenditures were discussed, including funds to cover minimal subcommittee expenses.

The Chair asked Kent King to head a subcommittee to examine future funding needs and sources. Members included Rep. Danie Moore and Mark Steward. Rep. Wilson asked for a report by the April meeting.

#### **IV. Guest Speaker, Prevent Child Abuse Missouri**

Lucia Erikson-Kincheloe, executive director of Prevent Child Abuse Missouri ([www.pcam.org](http://www.pcam.org)), provided a presentation to the Commission members. Highlights include:

- PCAM was incorporated in 1989, is a 39-state network and serves as a lobbyist in Washington, D.C.
- PCAM is working to reframe child abuse as a public health issue and to encourage public and private agencies to treat child abuse as a more acceptable disorder such as diabetes or heart disease.
- Various areas are now being focused on by PCAM, such as preventing burnout of caseworkers, coordinating the state's child abuse information, and the Missouri Home Companion program that provides information to all new parents at the time of their child's birth.
- The following Web site was noted: [www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org](http://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org)
- Lucia Erikson-Kincheloe suggested the CSC look at coordinating home visitation funding for higher-risk parents.
- The presenter also noted that faith-based organizations could provide assistance in supporting at-risk parents.
- The presenter suggested that CSC consider coordinating with PCAM and University Extension to inform the public and continue a dialogue on how groups might work together to prevent child abuse.

Suggestions from CSC members included possible links to the PCAM model/Website and to have PCAM staff speak to legislators.

#### **V. Subcommittee Updates**

Updates from CSC subcommittees were provided.

##### **Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health**

- CMH is continuing to track the children's mental health legislation. Six members were added to the subcommittee, including some who work in special education.
- The group agreed to spend the first part of July outlining issues in the children's mental health area.
- Many of the goals of the mental health subcommittee have been completed. The subcommittee will continue in its role and continue tracking mental health legislation.

The Chair noted that the CMH subcommittee had asked to continue its work for the Commission. She added, "We are grateful for the work each subcommittee has done. Each has followed its charge and the future charge is up to the committees."

#### **Subcommittee on parental responsibilities**

- The parental responsibilities subcommittee will continue. The Co-Chairs said they would contact members regarding future responsibilities.
- Anne Dannerbeck, Co-Chair of the subcommittee, contacted DYS and CTF regarding parenting programs and better ways to connect youth with such programs.

#### **Subcommittee on children of incarcerated parents**

- Julie Rollins, co-chair, reported on the status of the manual for incarcerated parents; the committee is still reviewing it, prior to printing.
- Anne Dannerbeck suggested that CSC Liaison, Jennie Bedsworth, check-up on ways the staff might help follow-up regarding the manual.

#### **Subcommittee on early childhood – a typed report from the subcommittee was provided:**

- HB1190 and SB1159 have been filed to establish the Coordinating Board for Early Childhood. HB1190 was heard by committee on 2/3/04. No action has been taken. SB 1159 has been assigned to committee.
- The subcommittee's work is transitioning into the Early Childhood Systems grant facilitated through Department of Health and Senior Services.
- Two organizational meetings of the Steering Committee have been held, which include representatives from DHSS, DESE, DMH, DSS, and Head Start.
- An Early Childhood Coalition will be convened that includes all the members of the Early Childhood Subcommittee and adds parent and additional provider representation.
- The representatives of the early childhood subcommittee had to leave to attend conflicting budgeting meetings; however, the Chair said that the committee was continuing to be active.

#### **VI. Website – Update and Action**

- Jennie Bedsworth asked if members of the subcommittee had any preferences or suggestions regarding additions/revisions to the Website.
- The Chair asked members to contact Jennie with any suggestions regarding the Website.

## **VII. Nomination Committee Update – Senator Foster**

Sen. Foster, chair of the nominating committee for new members, shared an update on the status of memberships.

- Replacements for the judge-membership position have been suggested and are being researched.
- Sen. Rita Days still needs to be confirmed as a member.

## **VIII. Medicaid and Services for Children**

- Sen. Dougherty requested that CSC write a letter objecting to proposed reductions in Medicaid coverage for children.
- The Chair suggested that CSC monitor the current legislation related to children's services, and asked members to contact her if they have recommendations regarding this issue.

## **IX. Extended Report, Colleen White, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Missouri Division of Labor Standards**

Colleen White provided a report on data surrounding child labor and child labor laws from DOLIR. A power-point slide-notes handout was provided, along with a CD and other information related to this area. For more information, members can visit [www.dolir.mo.gov/lr](http://www.dolir.mo.gov/lr). Among areas focused on in the presentation were the following:

- Facts: A teen is killed from their work every five days, a teen is hurt on the job every 40 seconds, and yearly almost 2,000 Missouri youth under 18 are injured seriously enough to file workers' compensation claims.
- Major causes of injury are slips, trips, and burns on the job.
- The most work-related fatalities are in agriculture – 40%.
- Injuries to Missouri youth are high in the retail and food industries.
- There are only two child-labor investigators in the state, and kids are working too late or too long.
- Eighty percent of youth injured are not supervised properly, and 50% are not trained properly.
- For children who work more than 20 hours per week, the work has a negative effect on education and an increased risk of injury.
- Youth who are under 16 are more closely regulated, but there are not federal time restrictions on work for 16 and 17 year-olds.
- A major issue is that children believe or are told that they do not have the same rights in the work environment as adults, although they do.
- A major dangerous and abusive work field is that of door to door sales. Kids who participate in this have been lost, kidnapped and robbed.

## **B. Other member and department reports**

### **DOC**

There was no update from Department of Corrections.

### **DPS**

Charles Jackson provided an update on the Amber Alert that helped officials find an infant.

- A woman entered a mother's room the day after the infant was born and asked about the father's schedule and later kidnapped the baby. A four-year-old star witness helped lead to finding the baby.
- There have been ten activations of the alert, and all but one were successful.

### **DED**

The Department of Economic Development reported that half of the tax credits for youth opportunities have been requested already for the calendar year.

### **DHSS**

Tricia Schlechte, Deputy Director, provided the following update:

- Early Childhood Systems Grant: Staff from DMH, DESE, DSS, Head Start, and DHSS have begun the process of plan development. A meeting with other stakeholders is planned for March 2004. The goal is to have the plan completed by December 2004.
- Tobacco Prevention: Over 100 participants who provide nurse home-visitation services and/or Medicaid case management participated in training on how to conduct smoking cessation counseling with pregnant, low income women. Missouri is one of five states invited to attend an upcoming national workshop to look at the systems needed to impact smoking in pregnancy. Approximately 18% of Missouri women smoke during pregnancy.
- Adolescent mental health: More than 330 school counselors, nurses, teachers, public health and youth services professionals attended six regional Mental Health Issues in Adolescence training sessions.
- Statewide evaluation of home visitation models: DHSS has released a competitive bid to complete an evaluation of home visitation models supported by DHSS, DSS, Children's Trust Fund as well as those that are independent of state agencies. The anticipated completion date for this evaluation is October 2004.
- Violence Against Women state plan: DHSS received funding to develop with a broad array of stakeholders, a state plan addressing the prevention of violence against women. The plan is available on the DHSS website at [www.dhss.state.mo.us](http://www.dhss.state.mo.us) (To access the plan, click on "Public Notes," then

click "Public Comment.") Town hall meetings are being held across the state to obtain input on the plan.

### **CTF**

- Bill Heberle reported an overall decrease in cases reported as Shaken Baby Syndrome in 2003, possibly due to the education with schools and hospitals funded by CTF.
- Tax check offs of 8% can still be chosen this year.
- The Chair noted that CTF would be recognized as the Organization of the Year at the Razzle-Dazzle Ball.

### **C. Other reports and public comment**

- Anne Dannerbeck reported on research with Latino youth and ways to prevent juvenile problems in this population.
- The next meeting would be on March 29, due to the legislative spring break.
- The Chair requested that the list of priorities identified at the 2003 CSC retreat be reviewed for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.